



# FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2025 REPORT (July 1st 2024 – September 30th 2024)

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### **Our Mission Statement**

To conduct case reviews of children in out-of-home care, make timely individual case and systemic child welfare recommendations; and advocate for legislative and systematic child welfare improvements to promote safety and permanency.

### **Our Vision Statement**

We envision the protection of all children from abuse and neglect, only placing children in out-of-home care when necessary; and providing families with the help they need to stay intact; children will be safe in a permanent living arrangement.

### **Discrimination Statement**

The Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) renounces any policy or practice of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, disability, or sexual orientation that is or would be applicable to its citizen reviewers or staff or to the children, families, and employees involved in the child welfare system (CRBC, 2013).

### **Confidentiality**

CRBC local board members are bound by strict confidentiality requirements. Under Article 88A, § 6, all records concerning out-of-home care are confidential and unauthorized disclosure is a criminal offense subject to a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or both. Each local board member shall be presented with the statutory language on confidentiality, including the penalty for breach thereof, and sign a confidentiality statement prior to having access to any confidential information.

**CRBC Acknowledgements**

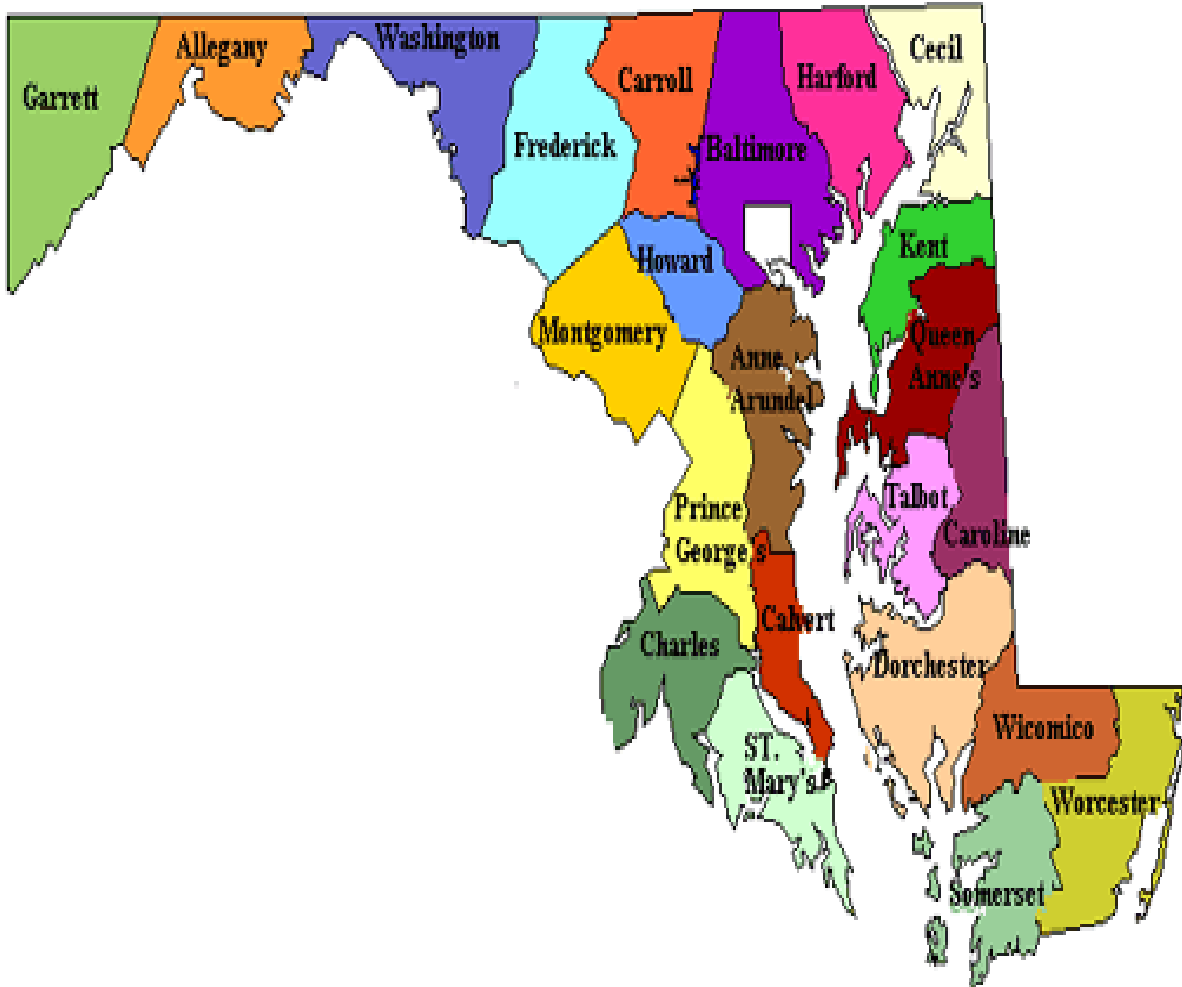
CRBC would like to acknowledge the commitment, dedication, passion and service of all stakeholders on behalf of Maryland's most vulnerable children including:

- ★ CRBC Governor Appointed Volunteers
- ★ The Department of Human Services (DHS)
- ★ The Social Services Administration (SSA)
- ★ The Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) and (DHHS) Montgomery County
- ★ The Coalition to Protect Maryland's Children(CPMC)
- ★ The State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (SCCAN)
- ★ The State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT)
- ★ The Local Juvenile Courts of Maryland
- ★ All community partners

*Thank  
You*

## Introduction

The following pages contain data from CRBC's out-of-home-placement case review findings and recommendations for the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025.



CRBC conducts regular out-of-home placement case reviews in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions including Baltimore City throughout the year. For this quarterly report, the following counties did not have regularly scheduled case reviews during the quarter: Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Garrett, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Wicomico and Worcester counties. Therefore, this report only contains review findings and recommendations for the 15 jurisdictions including Baltimore City that had regularly scheduled reviews.

**Targeted Review Criterion**

The Social Services Administration (SSA) and the Citizens Review Board for Children (CRBC) together have created a review work plan for targeted reviews of children in out-of-home-placement. This work plan contains targeted review criteria based on out- of-home-placement permanency plans.

**Reunification:**

- ★ Already established plans of Reunification for youth 10 years of age and older. CRBC will conduct a review for a child 10 years of age and older who has an established primary permanency plan of Reunification and has been in care 12 months or longer.

**Adoption:**

- ★ Existing plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child that has had a plan of Adoption for over 12 months. The purpose of the review is to assess the appropriateness of the plan and identify barriers to achieve the plan.
- ★ Newly changed plans of Adoption. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of Adoption as a primary permanency plan. The purpose is to ensure that there is adequate and appropriate movement by the local departments to promote and achieve the Adoption.

**Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA):**

- ★ Already established plans of APPLA for youth 16 years of age and younger. CRBC will conduct a full review of a child 16 years of age and younger who has an established primary permanency plan of APPLA. The primary purpose of the review is to assess appropriateness of the plan and review documentation of the Federal APPLA requirements.
- ★ Newly established plans of APPLA. CRBC will conduct a review of a child within 5 months after the establishment of APPLA as the primary permanency plan. Local Boards will review cases to ensure that local departments have made adequate and appropriate efforts to assess if a plan of APPLA was the most appropriate recourse for the child.

## Older Youth Aging Out

- ★ Older youth aging-out or remaining in out-of-home care at age 17 and 20 years old. CRBC will conduct reviews of youth that are 17 and 20 years of age. The primary purpose of the review is to assess if services were provided to prepare the youth to transition to adulthood.

## Re-Review Cases:

- ★ Assessment of progress made by LDSS. CRBC will conduct follow-up reviews during the fourth quarter of the current fiscal year of any cases wherein the Local Board identified barriers that may impede adequate progress. The purpose of the review is to assess the status of the child and any progress made by LDSS to determine if identified barriers have been removed.

## **Permanency Plan Hierarchy**

In 2005, Maryland House Bill 771 adjusted the state permanency goals to align with the federal standards. The permanency plan hierarchy in Maryland is as follows: (Social Services Administration, 2012):

- Reunification with parent(s) or guardian
- Placement with a relative for adoption or custody/guardianship
- Adoption by a non-relative
- Custody/Guardianship with a non-relative
- Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)

## **Family Centered Practice Model**

According to the Social Services Administration, Family Centered Practice assures that the entire system of care engages the family in helping them to improve their ability to adequately plan for the care and safety of their children. The safety, well-being and permanence of children are paramount. The strengths of the entire family are the focus of the engagement (2010).

**1st Quarter 2025 Case Review Statistics**

The following table shows the jurisdictions where reviews were conducted, the total number of children reviewed, permanency plans and the number of boards held.

Jurn #	County	Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	Relative Placement for Adoption	APPLA	TOTAL	# Boards Held
01	Allegany	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
02	Anne Arundel	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	1
03	Baltimore County	2	0	1	10	0	10	23	6
04	Calvert	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	1
05	Cecil	1	0	1	0	0	6	8	2
06	Dorchester	1	0	0	3	0	0	4	1
07	Frederick	1	0	1	3	0	3	8	2
08	Harford	1	1	1	8	0	1	12	3
09	Montgomery	3	0	0	15	0	3	21	5
10	Prince George's	3	1	2	2	4	8	20	5
11	St. Mary	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	1
12	Somerset	1	0	0	0	0	3	4	1
13	Talbot	0	1	0	2	0	1	4	1
14	Washington	1	0	0	4	0	1	6	2
15	Baltimore City	3	5	5	18	1	15	47	12
16	<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>44</b>
	<b>Percentages</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

CRBC conducted a total of 172 individual out-of-home case reviews (each case reviewed represents 1 child/youth) in 15 Jurisdictions on 44 boards that held reviews during the 1st quarter of fiscal year 2025.

Although CRBC collects data on a number of data elements, this report will focus on the following:

- Permanency Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (E))
- Placement Plan - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (I))
- Progress towards Permanent Placement - (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F))
- Case Planning
- Health/Mental Health (family article 5-545)
- Education (family article 5-545)
- Ready by 21
  - Employment (14 and older)
  - Independent Living Skills (14 and older)
  - Housing



(Transitioning Youth age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the time of the review)

- Permanent Connections
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- Adoptive Services
  - Pre-Adoptive Placement
  - Adoptive Recruitment
  - Post-Adoption Services
- Child's Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings
- Miscellaneous Findings
- Typical Statewide Barriers/Issues to Permanency
  - No Service Agreement with parents
  - No current safety risk
  - Lack of concurrent planning
  - Lack of follow-up (general)
  - Youth placed outside home jurisdiction
  - Youth has not been measured for mental health
  - Other physical health barrier
  - Other service resource barrier
  - Other placement barrier
  - Non-compliance with service agreement
  - Youth engages in risky behavior
  - Health concerns
  - Lack of documentation
- Typical Statewide Barriers /Issues to Adoption
  - Pre-adoptive resources not identified
  - Child in pre-adoptive home, but adoption not finalized
  - Efforts not made to move towards finalization
  - Other court related barrier

**Total Reviewed (172)**

**Gender Totals**

Male	Female
94 (55%)	78 (45%)

**Gender by Plan**

**Male (94)**

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
10 (11%)	5 (5%)	6 (6%)	44 (47%)	25 (27%)	4 (4%)

**Female (78)**

Non-Relative Adoption	Relative Placement for C & G	Non-Relative C & G	Reunification	APPLA	Relative Placement for Adoption
10 (13%)	3 (4%)	5 (6%)	29 (37%)	30 (39%)	1 (1%)

**Ethnicity Overall**

African American	Caucasian	Other
116 (67%)	46 (27%)	10 (6%)

**Age Range by Permanency Plan**

[RU] = Reunification

[RA] = Relative Adoption

[RG] = Relative C & G

[AD] = Non-Relative Adoption

[CG] = Non-Relative C & G

[AP] = AAPLA

AGE RANGE	RU	RA	RG	AD	CG	AP	Totals
1_age 0 thru 5	3	1	1	4	0	0	9
2_age 6 thru 10	20	2	3	8	1	0	34
3_age 11 thru 13	22	1	1	5	4	0	33
4_age 14 thru 16	15	0	1	2	4	3	25
5_age 17 thru 19	13	1	2	1	2	35	54
6_age 20	0	0	0	0	0	17	17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>172</b>

**Jurisdictional Case Reviews**

**Allegany County**



Allegany County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

**Permanency**

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify concurrent permanency plan for any case.

**Category of APPLA plan (1 case)**

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

**Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)**

1 APPLA case did not had a permanent connection identified.

**Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan**

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months				2		
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more				1		
<b>Totals → 4</b>				<b>3</b>		<b>1</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department did not have a signed service agreement for 2 cases. 2 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for none of the 2 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	Residential Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Own Dwelling

None of the 4 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 3 placement changes, and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 2 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 2 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was more restrictive
- 1 case(s) was less restrictive

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 1 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral issues

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 2 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 2 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 of the 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 2 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 3 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth graduated high school.

All 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child's/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was not available for review for the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that all 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

1 youth was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

#### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 1 case)

1 youth was receiving required Independent Living skills.

The local board agreed that the 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing has not been specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Information on alternative housing options were not provided to the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

The local board did not agree with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board did not agree that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

#### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths consented to adoption. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

#### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

#### Adoptive Recruitment (3 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for 2 of the 3 children/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 2 children/youths were listed with Adopt us kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 2 children/youths.

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for the 3 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical for all 3 cases.

The Board found the post-adoptive services appropriate for 2 of the 3 cases.



Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No		

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the children/youths had siblings in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed.

### Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Allegany County Barriers
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
1K	✓ No service agreement with child.
SD	✓ Family (including foster family) not following safety protocols.
SB	✓ Youth engages in risky behavior.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in home.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
DH	✓ Pre-Adoptive family cannot decide to adopt.
DA	✓ Disrupted Pre-Adoption placement.



Anne Arundel County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 3 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence: 1 case

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 1 case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3					
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						
<b>Totals →4</b>	<b>3</b>					<b>1</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 3 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for all 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements was appropriate for 3 of the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
2	Regular Foster Care
1	Independent Living Residential Program

In 3 of 4 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

1 of the 4 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 1 case.

The following levels of care were found in 1 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 1 case(s) was placement with relatives

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 1 case

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 1 case

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that none of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 1 child/youth had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 4 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.

- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: None of the 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Not applicable.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

None of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan or had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child's/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available to review for none of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 3 of the 4 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

1 youth was employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth that was participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

1 youth was 20 years old and employed and earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 1 of 2 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

1 youth completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was not receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that none of the 2 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing was specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed with transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases reviewed.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	3
No	1	1

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	3	3
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	3	3
Unsupervised		

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	3	3
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		1
Other	3	2



Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

### Siblings/Visits

3 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together for 3 children/youths that did not reside with each other. 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who do not reside with each other. All 4 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children/youths reviewed.

### Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Anne Arundel County Barriers
AQ	✓ Worker did not submit referral for needed resources/services.
AS	✓ Lack of follow up (General).
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
SA	✓ No current safe custody/guardianship.
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.



Baltimore County had a total of 23 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 2 case(s)
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case(s)
- Reunification: 10 case(s)
- APPLA: 10 case(s)

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 22 of 23 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 7 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for all 7 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (10 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (5)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (5)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 10 cases)

All 10 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 10 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	4			1		2
7 to 11 months						4
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years	1			1		3
3 years or more	2				1	1
<b>Totals →23</b>	<b>10</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 23 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 cases. 1 child/youth was Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 6 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	None
4	Formal Kinship Care
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Treatment Foster Care
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Home
5	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Diagnostic Center

In 13 of 23 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 20 cases reviewed.

### Placement Stability

10 of the 23 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 3 placement changes, and 2 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 8 of 10 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 10 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) were in a less restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) were a more restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) child on runaway
- 3 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 3 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 5 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 2 case(s) placement with relatives

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 2 case(s) related to behavioral issues
- 1 case(s) sexualized
- 1 case(s) runaway
- 1 case(s) hospitalization
- 2 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 2 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 10 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 11 of the 23 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.

- Current Physical: 13 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 8 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 12 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 5 eligible children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 13 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 13 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 10 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 10 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 3 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 18 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: Yes, for 18 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 12 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths reviewed with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths have substance abuse problems.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: Yes, for 11 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 11 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 23 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 8 of the 23 children/youths had been met.

### Education

20 of 23 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational Program. 18 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 2 youths were enrolled in college. 2 youths graduated high school. 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

12 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 6 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 5 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 19 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 14 cases)

3 of 14 children/youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

4 youths were not participating in paid or unpaid work experience. 2 youths did not participate due to being medically fragile and 5 youths did not participate due to mental health reasons.

3 children/youths employed were participating in work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was over 20 years old and earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

#### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 14 cases)

5 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

2 youths did not receive appropriate services due to being medically fragile and 6 youths did not participate due to mental health reasons.

4 youths completed a Life Skill Assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

5 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 5 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 3 cases)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing was specified for 2 of 3 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to 2 of 3 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed with transitional housing plan for the 2 of 3 youths.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

#### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths were under the age of consent. 1 child/youth consented to adoption. 1 child/youth was under the age of consent.

#### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 2 cases and a single female for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child was non-relative foster parent for the 3 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) from 4 to 6 months
- 2 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for none of the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that appropriate services and supports were in place for the pre-adoptive family to meet the identified needs of the child for the 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post adoptive services were needed for 3 children/youths. The service that was needed was medical for all 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 2 children/youths. Post adoptive subsidy was approved for none of the 2 children/youths.

The local board found that the post adoptive service was appropriate for all 3 children/youths.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

6 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 20 of 23 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	12	13
No	11	10

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	3	3
More than once a week		
Once a month	3	1
More than once a month	3	2
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	3	7



Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	6	2
Unsupervised	6	11

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	
Other Agency Representative	1	
Biological Family Member	1	
Foster Parent		
Other	1	1

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	6	7
LDSS Visitation Center	3	1
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	3	2
Other		3

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	6	8
No	6	4

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 6 of the 23 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 5 children/youths. 11 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 22 of the 23 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Baltimore County Barriers</b>
SD	✓ Family (including foster) not following safety protocols.
AG	✓ Lack of concurrent planning.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
CY	✓ No concurrent plan by court.
FG	✓ No concurrent permanency plan in place.
1G	✓ No service agreement with parents.
SB	✓ Youth engages in risky behavior.
AO	✓ No sibling or family visits.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
1K	✓ No service agreement with child.
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
EB	✓ Youth not attending school or in GED program.
EC	✓ Youth not receiving adequate services.
EE	✓ School not implementing IEP.
EF	✓ School not meeting youth's behavioral needs.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
HD	✓ No follow up or medical referrals.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
MA	✓ Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
5D	✓ Over age 18 and still in care.
DZ	✓ Other family related barrier.
LA	✓ Youth needs more restrictive placement.
MC	✓ Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.



Calvert County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 2 cases
- AAPLA: 2 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court did not identify concurrent permanency plan for any case.

Category of APPLA plan (2 cases)

Emancipation/Independence: 2 cases

Permanent Connections (2 cases)

2 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for both cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						1
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						1
<b>Totals →4</b>	<b>2</b>					<b>2</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 1 signed case.

The local board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Regular Foster Center
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Diagnostic Center

2 of the 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

3 of the 4 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for all 3 cases.

The following levels of care were found in 3 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were a more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 1 case(s) placement with relatives

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) related to behavioral issues

- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 3 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 3 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 4 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths reviewed.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 3 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 3 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.

- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school graduated high school.

1 of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 1 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

2 youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

None of the youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

1 youth was over 20 years old and earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

2 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

The local board agreed that both youths was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing was specified for the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed with transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared for transitioning out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	2
No	3	2

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		1
Once a week	1	
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		1

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised		2

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		2
LDSS Visitation Center	1	
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		



Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		2
No	1	

Siblings/Visits

1 child/youth had siblings in care. 1 child/youth had 3 siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together for the 1 case. 1 child/youth have visits with siblings who do not reside with them.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 3 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Calvert County Barriers
5D	✓ Over age 18 and still in care.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AG	✓ Lack of concurrent planning.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
FG	✓ No concurrent permanency plan in place.
HD	✓ No follow up or medical records.
1G	✓ No service agreement with parents.
SB	✓ Youth engages in risky behavior.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.



Cecil County had a total of 8 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- APPLA: 6 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 8 cases reviewed.

The local juvenile court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

#### Category of APPLA plan (6 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence: 5 cases
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement: 1 case

#### Permanent Connections APPLA (6 cases)

All 6 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified. The local board agreed the permanent connection appropriate for 5 of the 6 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						1
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years				1	1	1
2 to 3 years						3
3 years or more						
<b>Totals →8</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 6 of the 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 1 case. 1 child/youth was Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
2	Regular Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Relative
1	Non-Relative
1	Own Dwelling

2 of 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 4 of the 8 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 2 placement changes, 2 cases had 3 placement changes, and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 case. The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were less restrictive
- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) was same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal
- 3 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 2 case(s) child on runaway
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for the 3 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for the 3 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 1 child/youth had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department did not ensure that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 1 child/youth reviewed.

- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported 1 child/youth had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 1 child/youth was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 1 child/youth.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 4 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 8 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 2 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 2 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 5 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 5 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 2 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of the 8 children/youths were enrolled in school. All 3 children/youths were enrolled in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth graduated high school and 3 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth did not attend school for other reasons.

All 3 children/youths enrolled in school, or another educational/vocational program had a 504 or IEP plan and 2 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record. A current progress report card was available for review for the 3 children/youths enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program.

The local board agreed that 1 child/youth enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program was being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready By 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 7 cases)

3 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

3 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 5 youths were appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 7 case)

3 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

4 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was in a correctional facility and did not receive required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

## Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile.

## Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 1 case.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) 12 to 15 months

An adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 1 case.

A home study was not completed for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth. The services needed for the 1 child/youth was education, respite and DDA support services.

It is unknown if post-adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 child/youth. It is unknown if the subsidies were approved for the 1 child/youth.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources was appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

5 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 7 of 8 cases.

## Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		2
No	8	6

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month		2
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised		2

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		2
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No		2



Siblings/Visits

None of the 8 children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 8 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Cecil County Barriers</b>
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
MC	✓ Youth refused mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	✓ Youth non-compliant with medication.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
BD	✓ Child has behavioral problems in the home.
BE	✓ Non-compliant with service agreement.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
BF	✓ Not following up on referrals.
ED	✓ No current IEP.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
EA	✓ Youth not enrolled in school.
LZ	✓ Other placement barrier.



**CRBC**  
Citizens Review Board for Children  
**Dorchester County**



Dorchester County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Reunification: 3 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2			1		
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	1					
<b>Totals →4</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>1</b>		

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 2 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 1 case.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 1 signed case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	None
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Home

In none of the 4 cases reviewed the child/youth was placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 3 of the 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 placement changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 case.

The following level of care was found for the 3 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was a more restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) were less restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes were:

- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 2 case(s) transition towards a permanency goal

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements:

- Yes, for the 2 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 2 cases.

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 1 child/youth had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It is unknown if the local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 1 of 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 1 child/youth was taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 1 child/youth.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: No, for the 3 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had substance abuse problem.

- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: No, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-k through 12th grade. 1 child/youth did not attend school due to other reason.

2 of 3 children/youths had a 504 or IEP plan and a copy was found in none of the 3 children/youths record.

2 children/youths had a current progress report card available for review.

The local board agreed the educational goals were not met for the 3 children/youths.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 4 cases)

None of the youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience and 1 youth did not participate due to being medically fragile and 1 youth did not participate due to other reasons.

None of the youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that none of the youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 youth completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth consented to adoption.

### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

#### Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 1 case.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) 4 to 6 months

An adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 1 case.

A home study was completed for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

#### Adoptive Recruitment (none)

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were not needed for the 1 child/youth.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

### Miscellaneous Findings

#### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	1
No	1	3

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month	3	
Quarterly		1
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	3	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement	2	
Other		1

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	2	1

Siblings/Visits

None of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Dorchester County Barriers
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
AZ	✓ Other agency related barriers.
ED	✓ No current IEP.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
EA	✓ Youth not enrolled in school.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
CY	✓ No concurrent plan by court.
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
MA	✓ Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
CZ	✓ Other court related barrier.
MB	✓ Youth's Psychotropic medication should be adjusted.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
LZ	✓ Other placement barrier.





Frederick County had a total of 8 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 3 cases

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

#### Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 3 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months					1	1
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years	1			1		
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more	2					1
<b>Totals →8</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 8 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for all 8 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 8 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 8 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Non-Relative

5 of 8 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in a setting that was in close proximity to their community which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 7 of 8 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

None of the 8 cases reviewed had a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 4 of the 8 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 8 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 6 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 5 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 7 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 5 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 5 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medicine.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 of the 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 7 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 4 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 2 children/youths had behavioral issues.

- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 8 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 5 of 8 children/youths had been met.

### Education

6 of the 8 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 6 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 children/youths graduated high school.

4 of 6 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 4 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 7 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

5 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

2 youths did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

5 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant career field of choice.

3 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that the 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

8 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

All 8 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

All 8 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that the 8 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

#### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth consented to adoption.

#### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (1 case)

##### Pre-Adoptive Placement (1 case)

1 child/youth with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for the 1 case.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 1 case(s) 4 to 6 months

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for the 1 case.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

#### Adoptive Recruitment (none)

#### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

#### Miscellaneous Findings

##### Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

6 of 8 cases had a CASA.

#### Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 8 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	
No	5	8

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	1	1
More than once a week	1	
Once a month		
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	2	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	1	1
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	
No	7	8

Siblings/Visits

3 of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place both siblings together in the 3 cases. 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who do not reside with them.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Frederick County Barriers</b>
AQ	✓ Worker did not submit referral for needed resources/services.
AS	✓ Lack of follow up (General).
BG	✓ Refusal to locate or maintain employment.
BU	✓ Undocumented child/youth.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.

## Harford County



Harford County had a total of 12 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 8 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 11 of 12 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent plan for 3 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 3 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case did not had a permanent connection identified.

### Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months			1		1	
7 to 11 months	2					
1 to 2 years	2			1		
2 to 3 years	3					1
3 years or more	1					
<b>Totals → 12</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Citizens Review Board for Children

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Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 3 of the 12 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 6 cases. 1 child/youth was a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 7 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
3	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
2	Regular Foster Care
2	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
2	Residential Group Home
1	Own Dwelling
1	Other

In 6 of the 12 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for all 12 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 7 of the 12 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change, 3 cases had 2 placement changes, and 2 cases had 3 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 case.

The following levels of care were found for the 5 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 4 case(s) were same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 5 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) allegation of provider abuse/neglect
- 1 case(s) incompatible match
- 3 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 6 case(s) unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 6 cases

#### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 12 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 11 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 6 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 9 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: Appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 4 of the 12 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 5 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least

quarterly for the 5 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 8 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 6 of the 12 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 12 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 5 of the 12 children/youths had been met.

### Education

9 of the 12 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 9 of the children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 1 child/youth not enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program had already graduated high school. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

5 of 9 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 3 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in their record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for all 9 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 6 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

2 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

1 youth was 20 years old and employed and was earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 6 cases)

2 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

2 youths were not able to complete life skill assessment due to mental health reasons.

1 youth was receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing was not specified for the 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were not provided to the 1 youth.

The local board did not agree with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local board did not agree that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 1 child/youth was under the age of consent. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile. 3 children/youths did not consent due to unknown reasons.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (4 cases)

4 children/youths with a plan of adoption was placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for the 4 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a relative foster parent for 3 cases and non-relative foster parent for 1 case.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 3 case(s) 4 to 6 months
- 1 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for all 4 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 4 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 children/youth was not listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for the 1 child/youth. The service needed was medical, mental health, educational, respite and DDA support services.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 1 case and was approved.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 case.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 of the 12 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 12 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	8	1
No	4	11

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month	1	
More than once a month	5	1
Quarterly	2	
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	1
Unsupervised	4	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	3	
Foster Parent	1	
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	2	4
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	2	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	8	1

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 6 children/youths had siblings in care. It is unknown if efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 1 child/youth. 2 children/youths with sibling in care had visits with their sibling who did not reside with them. 5 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 8 of 12 children/youths reviewed.

### Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Harford County Barriers</b>
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AB	✓ Pre-adoptive resource not identified.
CI	✓ Child in pre-adoptive home but adoption not finalized.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
CY	✓ No concurrent plan by court.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
ED	✓ No current IEP.
EB	✓ Youth not attending school or in GED program.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
IA	✓ Transitional housing has not been identified.
MC	✓ Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	✓ Youth non-compliant with medication.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.



Montgomery County had a total of 21 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Reunification: 15 cases
- APPLA: 3 cases

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 6 of 21 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plans for 4 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for the 4 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (3)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 cases)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 3 cases.



Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	3					2
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years	10					
3 years or more	2			3		
<b>Totals →21</b>	<b>15</b>			<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 21 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 7 cases. 3 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 17 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 6 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
2	None
7	Regular Foster Care
3	Restricted Foster Care (Relative)
7	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 11 of the 21 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 19 of 21 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 4 of the 21 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change, and 3 cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for all 4 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) was more restrictive placement
- 2 case(s) had the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 1 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 4 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 14 of the 21 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 16 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 18 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 15 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 20 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 13 of the 21 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

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email: [crbc.mail.maryland.gov](mailto:crbc.mail.maryland.gov) website: <http://dhr.maryland.gov/crbc>

- Prescription Medication: 10 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 10 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 8 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 8 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 13 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 13 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 13 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 13 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.
- Behavioral Issues: 8 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 8 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 21 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 12 of the 21 children/youths had been met.

### Education

All 21 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 19 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade. 2 youths were enrolled in college.

15 of the 19 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 12 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 15 children/youths.

The local board agreed that 19 of 21 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

2 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

Both youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

2 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

#### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 8 cases)

4 youths received appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

1 youth was unable to receive appropriate services due to mental issues and 1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility.

3 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

2 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

#### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none) (Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 3 children/youths consented to adoption.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (3 cases)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a non-relative foster parent for 3 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

Adoptive home study was completed and approved for all 3 cases.

The Board found the pre-adoptive placement appropriate for the 3 children/youths.

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

13 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 21 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	11	2
No	10	19

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	9	1
More than once a week		
Once a month	2	1
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	4	1
Unsupervised	7	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	3	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	1	
Foster Parent		
Others/not specified		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	1	1
LDSS Visitation Center	2	
Public Area	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement		
Others/not specified		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	21	21

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 14 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 14 children/youths. 14 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 13 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 19 of 21 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Montgomery County Barriers</b>
AQ	✓ Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AS	✓ Lack of follow-up (General)
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
LA	✓ Youth needs more restrictive placement.



Prince George's County had a total of 20 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 2 cases
- Reunification: 2 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 4 cases
- APPLA: 8 cases

### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 19 of 20 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 3 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 3 cases.

### Category of APPLA plan (8 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (8)

### Permanent Connections (8 cases)

7 of 8 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 7 cases.



Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	1	1				3
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years			1	2		2
2 to 3 years					2	3
3 years or more	1	3		1		
<b>Totals → 20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 20 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department have signed service agreements for 4 cases. 7 children/youths were a post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	None
4	Formal Kinship Care
2	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
3	Regular Foster Care
3	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Residential Group Home
1	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Own Dwelling

In 11 of the 20 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 19 of 20 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 8 of the 20 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the

review. 6 cases had 1 placement change and 2 cases had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for all 8 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 8 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placement
- 3 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 4 case(s) were the same level of care

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 5 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason
- 3 case(s) transition towards permanency goal

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included

- 7 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) provider request

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 5 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) delinquent behavior
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- No, for 8 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 8 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 7 of 20 children/youths reviewed had developmental or specials needs.
- Current Physical: 15 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 13 children/youths had a current vision exam.

- Current Dental: 12 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 7 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: 7 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 5 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for 2 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 7 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 8 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 of 7 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 7 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 4 children/youths had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for 4 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 20 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board agreed that health needs of 8 of 20 children/youths were met.

## Education

15 of the 20 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 14 children/youths were in Pre-K through 12th grade and 1 youth was enrolled in college.

3 children/youths not enrolled in school graduated high school. 1 child/youth refused to attend school and 1 child/youth was under the age of 5.

7 of the 14 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 3 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available to review for the 3 children/youths in Pre-K through 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 15 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

## Ready By 21

### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

2 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

Both youths participated in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

2 youths over 20 years of age were employed and earning a living wage.

The local board agreed that 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 9 cases)

7 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

6 youths completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood.

7 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 7 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – 3 cases)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 3 youths transitioning out of care.  
Alternative housing options were provided to the 3 youths.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for all 3 youths.

The local board agreed that the 3 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 2 children/youths consented to adoption. 1 child/youth was unable to consent due to being medically fragile and 5 children/youths were under the age of consent.

### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (7 cases)

7 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The family structure was comprised of a married couple for 4 cases and a single female for 3 cases. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was a relative foster parent for the 5 cases and non-relative foster parent for 2 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placements was as follows:

- 1 case(s) 1 to 3 months
- 1 case(s) 10 to 12 months
- 5 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed and approved for 1 of 7 cases.

The local board found that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for all 7 cases.

### Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Heart Gallery and Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (8 cases)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 8 children/youths. The service needed was medical for the 8 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were needed for 3 cases.

Post adoptive subsidies were not approved for any case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 8 cases.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

7 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 19 of 20 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	6	12
No	14	8

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		1
Once a week		
More than once a week		1
Once a month		1
More than once a month		
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented	6	9

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	6	12

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	6	10
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement		2
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	6	11
No		1

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 4 children/youths. 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 7 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 19 of 20 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Prince George's County Barriers</b>
AH	✓ Notification not published.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
5D	✓ Over age 18 and still in care.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
1K	✓ No service agreement with child.
BU	✓ Undocumented child/youth.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AO	✓ No sibling or family visits.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
EA	✓ Youth not enrolled in school.
EB	✓ Youth not attending school or GED program.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
2E	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
SB	✓ Youth engages in risky behavior.



**St. Mary's County**



St. Mary's County had a total of 3 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Reunification: 3 cases

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 3 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified no concurrent permanency plan for any case.

Category of APPLA plan (none)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – none)

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	3					
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						
<b>Totals =&gt;3</b>	<b>3</b>					

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for all 3 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for none of the 3 cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Regular Foster Care
1	Treatment Foster Care
1	Residential Treatment Center

None of the 3 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department’s placement plan for all 3 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In none of the 3 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review.

Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 3 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 3 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It was reported that the local department did not ensure appropriate follow up occurred on all health-related concerns for 1 child/youth.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.

- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 2 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 2 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 2 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: Not applicable. None of the 2 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 3 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 3 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of all 3 children/youths had been met.

### Education

All 3 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

2 of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 2 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report card was available for all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that the 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – none)
- Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – none)

- Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Child’s Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (none)

Not applicable.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 3 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 3 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	3	
No		3

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month	3	
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	
Unsupervised	2	

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other	1	

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	2	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	3	

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that all 3 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 3 children/youths. 3 children/youths with siblings in care

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had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. All 3 children/youths have visits with siblings who are not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 3 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter St. Mary County Barriers</b>
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
1G	✓ No service agreement with parents.
HC	✓ Vision not current.



Somerset County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 1 case
- APPLA: 3 cases

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plan for 1 case.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 1 case.

#### Category of APPLA plan (3 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (2)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 3 case)

All 3 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for the 3 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months				1		
7 to 11 months						1
1 to 2 years						1
2 to 3 years						
3 years or more						1
<b>Totals =&gt;4</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>3</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 1 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had no signed service agreement for any case. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for none of the 4 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were not appropriate for any case.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
2	None
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Independent Living Residential Program

None of the 4 children/youths reviewed were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 1 case had 1 placement change and 1 case had 2 placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for none of the 2 cases reviewed.

The following levels of care were found for the 2 most recent placement changes:



- 1 case(s) was same level of care
- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placements

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 1 case(s) allegation of provider abuse/neglect

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) behavioral
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 2 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 2 cases

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 2 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 2 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: It is unknown the local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by physician requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that none of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 4 children/youths were taking prescription medication.

- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 4 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 4 children/youths was taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 4 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 4 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: No, for the 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths reviewed with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: 3 children/youths have substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: No, for the 3 children/youths.
- Behavioral Issues: 4 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: No, for 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: None of the 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 1 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of the 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

2 of the 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 2 children/youths had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 2 of 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 1 of 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

#### ➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

None of the youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

#### ➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

2 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living.

None of the youths had completed a life skills assessment.

1 youth was in a juvenile justice facility.

2 youths received required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 2 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

#### ➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 1 case)

(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for 1 youth transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to 1 youth.

The local boards agreed with the transitional housing plan for the 1 youth.

The local boards did not agree that the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was not listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were needed for 1 child/youth. The services needed were medical, mental health, educational and respite services for the 1 case.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 1 case.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were approved for the 1 case.

The local board agreed that the post-adoptive services and resources were appropriate for the 1 case.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

2 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	2
No	2	2

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month	1	
More than once a month	2	1
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised		
Unsupervised	2	2

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative		
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area	1	
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		1
No	2	1

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that none of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 2 of 4 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local boards identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Somerset County Barriers</b>
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
BH	✓ Issues related to substance abuse.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
IB	✓ Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
DA	✓ Disrupted pre-adoption placement.
LZ	✓ Other placement barrier.
LA	✓ Youth needs more restrictive placement.



Talbot County had a total of 4 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 1 case
- Reunification: 2 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 3 of 4 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 2 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for the 2 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 1 case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months	2					
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years			1			
2 to 3 years						1
3 years or more						
<b>Totals =&gt;4</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 2 of 4 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department have a signed service agreement for all 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for all 4 cases.

The Board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Residential Group Home
1	Residential Treatment Center
1	Non-Relative

None of the 4 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 4 cases reviewed.

Placement Stability

In 2 of the 4 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. Both cases had 2 placement changes.

The local department did not hold a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for the 2 cases.



The following levels of care were found for the 2 most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) were less restrictive placement
- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placement

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 1 case(s) was transitioning towards permanency goal
- 1 case(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 1 case(s) allegation of provider abuse or neglect
- 1 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Unknown, for 2 cases.

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 2 cases.

### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 1 of the 4 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 4 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 3 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 2 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 3 of the 4 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.

- Prescription Medication: 2 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 2 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 3 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: 1 child/youth refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 4 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 3 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 3 of 4 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the 4 children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the 4 children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 2 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 2 of 4 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 3 of 4 children/youths had been met.

### Education

3 of 4 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 3 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 1 child/youth refused to attend school.

2 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and both had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available to review for all 3 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 3 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

➤ Employment (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

None of the youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth was referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 2 cases)

1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

2 youths had completed a life skills assessment for successful transition to adulthood and 1 youth was receiving required independent skills.

The local board agreed that 1 youth was receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

### Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

### Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

### Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

### Adoptive Recruitment (none)

### Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (none)

### Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

All 4 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 4 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	1	1
No	3	3

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	1	
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month		1
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	1	1
Unsupervised		

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	1	
Other Agency Representative	1	
Biological Family Member		
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		1
Child's/Youth's Placement	1	
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		
No	4	4

### Siblings/Visits

None of the 4 children/youths had siblings in care.

### Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 4 children/youths reviewed.

### Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

Code	First Quarter Talbot County Barriers
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
DD	✓ Home study not completed.
EA	✓ Youth not enrolled in school.
EB	✓ Youth not attending school or GED program.
MC	✓ Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	✓ Youth non-compliant with medication.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
CY	✓ No concurrent plan by court.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.



Washington County had a total of 6 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption : 1 case
- Reunification: 4 cases
- APPLA: 1 case

Permanency

The local board agreed with the department’s permanency plan for all 4 of 6 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified concurrent permanency plan for 4 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plan set by the local Juvenile Court for 3 cases.

Category of APPLA plan (1 case)

- Emancipation/Independence (1)

Permanent Connections (APPLA – 1 case)

The 1 APPLA case had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connection was appropriate for the 1 case.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months						
7 to 11 months						
1 to 2 years	2			1		1
2 to 3 years	2					
3 years or more						
<b>Totals =&gt;6</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>

## Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 5 of 6 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department have a signed service agreement for 4 cases. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process was made for the 4 cases.

The board agreed that the service agreement was appropriate for the 4 signed cases.

## Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement
1	Formal Kinship Care
1	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
1	Residential Group Home
2	Therapeutic Group Home
1	Other

5 of the 6 children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for all 6 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 4 of the 6 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 2 cases had 1 placement change, 1 case had 2 changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 1 of the 4 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 4 most recent placement changes:

- 3 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 1 case(s) were more restrictive placements

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 2 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 2 cases(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 4 case(s) placement not due to provider issue

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 3 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 1 case(s) hospitalization

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 4 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 4 cases

#### Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 5 of the 6 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 6 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 3 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 4 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 4 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local departments reported that 2 of the 6 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 3 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Yes, for 3 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 2 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Yes, for both children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: None of the children/youths refused prescription medicine.



- Mental Health Issues: 6 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 6 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 5 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: None of the children/youths with mental health issues were transitioning out of care.
- Substance Abuse: None of the children/youths had substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Not applicable.
- Behavioral Issues: 3 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for the 3 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 1 child/youth refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 4 of 6 children/youths had been met.

### Education

6 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. All 6 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

All 6 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 5 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan was in the child/youth's record.

Current progress report card was available for review for 5 of 6 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 5 of 6 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

1 youth participated in paid or unpaid work experience.

1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to mental health reasons.

None of the youths were referred to summer or year-round training and employment opportunities.

The local board agreed the 1 youth was being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 3 cases)

None of the youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

The local board agreed the none of the youths were being appropriately prepared for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – none)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (none)

Adoptive Recruitment (1 case)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 1 child/youth not placed in pre-adoptive home. The 1 child/youth was listed with Adopt Us Kids.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 child/youth

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (1 case)

Post-adoptive services were not needed for the 1 child/youth.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

None of the 6 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for all 6 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	5	3
No	1	3

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week		
More than once a week		
Once a month		
More than once a month	5	2
Quarterly		1
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	2	2
Unsupervised	3	1

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	2	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member		1
Foster Parent		
Other		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home		1
LDSS Visitation Center		
Public Area		
Child's/Youth's Placement	4	2
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	2	
No	2	1

Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 4 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for the 2 children/youths. 2 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them.

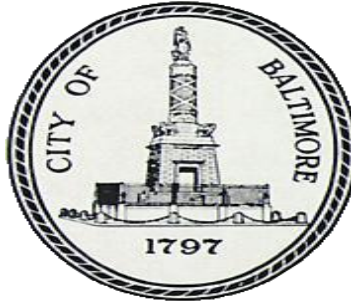
Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for all 6 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Washington County Barriers</b>
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
ED	✓ No current IEP.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
MA	✓ Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
7E	✓ Lack of adoptive homes.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.



Baltimore City had a total of 47 cases that were reviewed with the following permanency plans:

- Non-Relative Adoption: 3 cases
- Relative Placement for Custody & Guardianship: 5 cases
- Non-Relative Custody & Guardianship: 5 cases
- Reunification: 18 cases
- APPLA: 15 cases
- Relative Placement for Adoption: 1 case

#### Permanency

The local board agreed with the department's permanency plan for 35 of the 47 cases reviewed.

The local Juvenile Court identified a concurrent permanency plan for 11 cases.

The local department was implementing the concurrent permanency plans set by the local Juvenile Court for 7 of 11 cases.

#### Category of APPLA plan (15 cases)

- Emancipation/Independence (13)
- Transition to an adult supportive living arrangement (1)
- Other (1)

#### Permanent Connections (APPLA – 15 cases)

14 APPLA cases had a permanent connection identified and the local board agreed that the connections were appropriate for 13 cases.

Length of time Child/Youth had a Permanency Plan

LENGTH	Reunif	Relative for Adoption	Relative for C & G	Non-Rel Adoption	Non-Rel Cust/Guad	APPLA
0 to 6 months			3		3	1
7 to 11 months			1		2	
1 to 2 years	3			2		9
2 to 3 years	7					4
3 years or more	8	1	1	1		1
<b>Totals →47</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>

Case Planning

Family Involvement Meetings (prior to entry): The local department held family involvement meetings prior to entry for 24 of the 47 cases reviewed.

Service Agreements: The local department had a signed service agreement for 17 cases. 4 children/youths were a Post-TPR child under the age of 14. Efforts to involve the families in the service agreement process were made for 28 cases.

The local board agreed that the service agreements were appropriate for 14 of the 17 signed cases.

Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)

Number of Cases	Placement/Living Arrangement (LA)
8	None
5	Formal Kinship Care
1	Pre-Finalized Adoptive Home
5	Regular Foster Care
6	Restrictive Foster Care (Relative)
14	Treatment Foster Care (Private)
3	Residential Group Home
1	Teen Mother Home
1	Therapeutic Group Home
2	Independent Living Residential Program
1	Residential Treatment Center

In 15 of the 47 cases reviewed the children/youths were placed in their home jurisdiction in settings that were in close proximity to their communities which allowed for the continuity of services.

The local board agreed with the department's placement plan for 43 of the 47 cases reviewed.

## Placement Stability

In 16 of the 47 cases reviewed there was a placement change within the 12 months prior to the review. 7 cases had 1 placement change, 5 cases had 2 changes, 3 cases had 3 changes and 1 case had 4 or more placement changes.

The local department held a family involvement meeting for the placement changes for 8 of 16 cases.

The following levels of care were found for the 16 most recent placement changes:

- 5 case(s) were less restrictive placements
- 2 case(s) were more restrictive placements
- 8 case(s) had the same level of care
- 1 case(s) child on runaway

The primary reason for the most recent placement changes:

- 8 case(s) were transitioning towards permanency goal
- 8 cases(s) move did not occur for positive reason

Provider specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 2 case(s) provider home closed
- 3 case(s) provider request
- 9 case(s) placement not due to provider issue
- 2 case(s) unknown, info not available

Child/youth specific issues for the most recent placement changes included:

- 8 case(s) change unrelated to behavior of child
- 5 case(s) behavioral
- 2 case(s) runaway
- 1 case(s) other

Were adequate services provided to support the provider in the previous placements?

- Yes, for 15 cases

Current placement match between child's needs and the provider's ability to meet those needs:

- Yes, for 14 cases

## Health/Mental Health

- Developmental/Special Needs: The local department reported that 17 of the 47 children/youths reviewed had developmental or special needs.
- Current Physical: 21 children/youths had a current physical exam.
- Current Vision: 18 children/youths had a current vision exam.
- Current Dental: 16 children/youths had a current dental exam.
- Follow-up Health Concerns: The local department ensured that appropriate follow-ups occurred on all health concerns noted by a physician for 15 children/youths requiring follow-ups.
- Completed Medical Records: The local department reported that 8 of the 47 children/youths had completed medical records in their case files.
- Prescription Medication: 15 children/youths were taking prescription medication.
- Prescription Medication Monitored: Prescription medication was being monitored regularly for the 14 children/youths.
- Psychotropic Medication: 9 children/youths were taking psychotropic medication.
- Psychotropic Medication Monitored: Psychotropic medication was being monitored at least quarterly for the 9 children/youths.
- Refused Prescribed Medication: Yes. 5 children/youths refused to take prescribed medication.
- Mental Health Issues: 36 children/youths had mental health issues.
- Mental Health Diagnosis: 40 children/youths had a mental health diagnosis.
- Mental Health Issues Addressed: Yes, for 25 children/youths.
- Mental Health Issues/Transitioning/Services: 10 youths with mental health issues who were transitioning out of care had an identified plan to receive services in the adult mental health system.
- Substance Abuse: 1 child/youth had a substance abuse problem.
- Substance Abuse Addressed: Yes, for 1 child/youth.



- Behavioral Issues: 17 children/youths had behavioral issues.
- Behavioral Issues Addressed: Yes, for 12 children/youths.
- Standard Health Exams: 5 children/youths refused to comply with standard health exams.

The local board found that the health needs of 12 of the 47 children/youths had been met.

### Education

35 of the 47 children/youths reviewed were enrolled in school or another educational/vocational program. 32 children/youths were in Pre-K thru 12th grade. 2 youths were enrolled in college. 1 youth was in trade school. 5 youths graduated high school. 3 children/youths refused to attend school. 1 child/youth did not attend school due to other reasons and 3 children/youths were under the age of 5.

16 of the 32 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade had a 504 or IEP plan and 5 had a copy of the 504/IEP plan in the child/youth's record.

A current progress report/report card was available for review for 17 of the 32 children/youths in Pre-K thru 12th grade.

The local board agreed that 26 children/youths were being appropriately prepared to meet educational goals.

### Ready By 21

- Employment (age 14 and older – 26 cases)

12 youths were employed or participating in paid or unpaid work experience.

10 youths were participating in paid or unpaid work experience relevant to career field of choice.

2 youths was unable to participate due to mental health reasons and 1 youth was in a correctional facility. 1 youth did not participate in paid or unpaid work experience due to other reasons.

17 youths were referred to summer or year-round training and/or employment opportunities.

4 youths were over 20 years of age and were earning a livable wage.

The local board agreed that 15 youths were being appropriately prepared to meet employment goals.

➤ Independent Living Services (age 14 and older – 26 cases)

11 youths were receiving appropriate services to adequately prepare for independent living when they leave home care.

2 youths did not receive appropriate services due to mental health reasons and 1 youth was in a correctional facility. 1 youth did not receive services due to other reasons.

11 youths had completed a life skills assessment.

11 youths were receiving required independent living skills.

The local board agreed that 10 youths were receiving appropriate services to prepare for independent living.

➤ Housing (Transitioning Youth – 5 cases)  
(Age 20 and/or planning to discharge within a year from the review)

Housing had been specified for all 5 youths transitioning out of care.

Alternative housing options were provided to all 5 youths transitioning out of care.

The local board agreed with the transitional housing plan for all 5 youths.

The local board agreed that 5 youths were being appropriately prepared to transition out of care.

Child's Consent to Adoption

The age of consent for adoption in the State of Maryland is 10. Children 10 and older must consent to be adopted. 3 children/youths were under the age of consent. 2 children/youths did not consent to be adopted.

Adoptive Placement Services and Resources (none)

Pre-Adoptive Placement (3 cases)

3 children/youths with a plan of adoption were placed in a pre-adoptive home. The pre-adoptive family structure was comprised of a married couple for 2 cases and unmarried couple for 1 case. The relationship to the pre-adoptive child/youth was foster parent non-relative for all 3 cases.

Length of time in the pre-adoptive placement was as follows:

- 3 case(s) 21 months or more

A home study was completed for the 3 placements and approved. A family social summary was given in 2 of 3 cases.

The local board agreed that the pre-adoptive placement was appropriate for the 3 cases.

Adoptive Recruitment (2 cases)

The local board found that the local department had documented efforts to find an adoptive resource for the 2 children/youths not placed in pre-adoptive home. Both children/youths were not listed with any adoptive resource.

The local board found the adoptive recruitment efforts appropriate for the 1 of the 2 cases.

Post-Adoptive Services and Resources (3 cases)

Post-adoptive subsidies were needed for 1 of 3 cases. The post adoptive service needed was medical, mental health, respite and DDA support services for the 1 case.

It is unknown if post adoptive subsidies were needed for the 3 cases.

The local board found post-adoptive services appropriate for all 3 cases.

Miscellaneous Findings

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)

3 of 47 cases had a CASA.

Risk and Safety

The local board agreed that safety and risk protocols were followed for 41 of the 47 cases.

Child Visits with Parents, Relatives and Siblings

Child Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes	12	8
No	35	39

Frequency of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Daily		
Once a week	6	3
More than once a week		
Once a month	3	3
More than once a month	3	2
Quarterly		
Yes, but undocumented		

Supervision of Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
Supervised	4	
Unsupervised	8	8

Who Supervises Visits	With Parents	With Relatives
LDSS Agency Representative	3	
Other Agency Representative		
Biological Family Member	1	
Foster Parent		
Other/not indicated		

Where do Visits Occur?	With Parents	With Relatives
Parent/Relative Home	1	2
LDSS Visitation Center	3	
Public Area	3	
Child's/Youth's Placement	4	1
Other		

Overnight Stays	With Parents	With Relatives
Yes		3
No	30	22

### Siblings/Visits

The local board found that 19 of 47 children/youths had siblings in care. Efforts were made to place siblings together who did not reside together for 10 children/youths. 8 children/youths with siblings in care had visits with their siblings who did not reside with them. 17 children/youths had visits with their siblings who were not in care.

Summary

Based on the findings of the review the local board determined that the local Department of Social Services made adequate progress towards a permanent placement (COMAR – 07.01.06.05 (F)) for 36 of the 47 children/youths reviewed.

Barriers/Issues

The local board identified the following barriers to permanency or issues:

<b>Code</b>	<b>First Quarter Baltimore City Barriers</b>
AG	✓ Lack of concurrent planning.
AL	✓ No service agreement with youth.
AR	✓ Missing or lack of documentation.
AQ	✓ Worker did not submit referral for needed resource/service.
AZ	✓ Other agency related barriers.
AK	✓ No service agreement with parents.
AN	✓ Youth placed outside of home jurisdiction.
AS	✓ Lack of follow-up (General)
BA	✓ Child does not consent.
BD	✓ Child has behavior problems in the home.
BY	✓ Child/youth has runaway history.
BZ	✓ Other child/youth related barrier.
BF	✓ No following up on referrals.
CY	✓ No concurrent plan by court.
IA	✓ Transitional housing has not been specified.
IB	✓ Youth not employed and transitioning out of care.
IC	✓ Inadequate preparation for independence (General).
IZ	✓ Other independence barrier.
HA	✓ Annual physicals not current.
HB	✓ Dentals not current.
HC	✓ Vision not current.
HD	✓ No follow-up or medical referrals.
9B	✓ Inadequate information by substitute worker.
ED	✓ No current IEP.
EZ	✓ Other education barrier.
2A	✓ Inadequate casework services.
2B	✓ Lack of progress in implementation.
2C	✓ Inadequate contact with client.
MA	✓ Youth has not been assessed for mental health concerns.
MZ	✓ Other mental health barrier.
MC	✓ Youth refuses mental health treatment including therapy.
MD	✓ Youth non-complaint with medication

FA	✓ Board does not agree with current permanency plan.
DE	✓ Unwilling to adopt because of lack of services or financial support.
DY	✓ No family related barriers.
LA	✓ Youth needs more restrictive placement.
SA	✓ No current safe custody/guardianship.

### Required Supporting Documentation for CRBC Reviews

The following are reminders of the materials required in accordance with the work plan agreement created between the Department of Human Services (DHS), Social Services Administration and the Citizens Review Board for Children.

- Each (LDSS) is required to have access at the time of the review to the child's complete case records and/or records containing requested supportive documentation to present at all CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should continue supplying CRBC with the most recent and current contact information including emails for all interested parties, including professionals and family members.

### Recommendations to All Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS)

- Each (LDSS) should encourage the attendance of children and youth who are 10 years of age and older to attend his/her scheduled CRBC case review.
- Each (LDSS) should encourage foster parent attendance at scheduled CRBC case reviews.
- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with documenting concurrent permanency plans.
- Each (LDSS) should improve their efforts with getting parents to sign service agreements for those children/youths with a permanency plan of reunification.
- Each (LDSS) is required to include the paternal family members as possible resources for all children/youths who are in out-of-home-placement care.

### Independent Living

- Each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts with preparing youths that have a plan of APPLA to meet their employment goals. Additionally, each (LDSS) is required to improve their efforts for youth aged 14 and older with appropriate independent living skills.

### Permanent Connections

- Each (LDSS) is encouraged to improve their efforts with identifying permanent connections for those youths with a plan of APPLA.

### Adoption

- Each (LDSS) should ensure that age-appropriate children/youths with a permanency plan of adoption are linked with adoption counseling services.

1st Quarter 2025 CRBC Metrics

Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent:	172
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Number Sent on Time:	163
Recommendation Reports to DSS - Percentage Sent on Time:	95%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number of Responses Received: <sup>1</sup>	138
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage of DSS Responses:	80%
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Number Received on Time:	112
Recommendation Reports from DSS - Percentage Received on Time	81%
Number of Boards Held	44
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Agreement:	134
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Agreement:	97%
Recommendation Reports - Number of DSS Disagreement:	4
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of DSS Disagreement:	3%
Recommendation Reports - Number of Blank/Unanswered: <sup>2</sup>	0
Recommendation Reports - Percentage of Blank/Unanswered:	0%
Percentage of REUNIFICATION Children Reviewed for the Period:	42%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - Adoption Children Reviewed:	3%
Percentage of RELATIVE PLACEMENT - C & G Children Reviewed:	5%
Percentage of ADOPTION Children Reviewed for the Period:	12%
Percentage of CUSTODY/GUARDIANSHIP Children Reviewed for the Period:	6%
Percentage of APPLA Children Reviewed for the Period:	32%

<sup>1</sup> The local Department of Social Services is required by COMAR 07.01.06.06 (H) to respond to the local out-of-home placement (CRBC) review board's recommendation(s) within 10 days of receipt of the report.

<sup>2</sup> The number of recommendation report responses received from the local Department of Social Services that did not indicate acceptance or non-acceptance of the local (CRBC) board's recommendation.





The State Board

Nettie Anderson-Burrs (Chair)

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Delores Alexander (Vice Chair)

Circuit 3: Representing Baltimore and Harford Counties

Vacant

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Dr. Corinne Vinopol

Circuit 2: Representing Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties

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Circuit 5: Representing Anne Arundel, Carroll, and Howard Counties

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Circuit 6: Representing Frederick and Montgomery Counties

Davina Richardson

Circuit 7: Representing Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties

Beatrice Lee

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Dr. Edwin Green

Circuit 8: Representing Baltimore City

Benia Richardson

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